

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed on November 2, 2004. Claims 1-20 are pending in the application with Claims 1 and 11 being in independent form. By the present amendment, Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. No new matter or issues are believed to be introduced by the amendments.

(1) In the Office Action, Claims 1, 4-6, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated over U.S. Patent No. 5,255,308 issued to Hashimoto et al (Hashimoto) on October 19, 1993. These claims are deemed to be patentable for at least the reasons given below.

Regarding Claim 1, the Examiner alleges that Hashimoto discloses a broadcast system for communicating a broadcast message in a telecommunications system having at least one fixed terminal for communication with one or more portable terminals, said broadcast system including:

first transmitter means for transmitting a first message from the or each fixed terminal, the message including information specifying a channel, selected for that fixed terminal, to convey the broadcast message (Hashimoto at col. 7, lines 42-45);

control means for causing the or each portable terminal to receive on the specified broadcast message channel (Hashimoto at col. 7, lines 42-45)

second transmitter means for transmitting from the fixed terminal the broadcast message on the said specified broadcast message channel for reproduction of the broadcast message by the

or each portable terminal, wherein the broadcast message channel is connectionless (Hashimoto at col. 7, lines 42-53 and col. 3, lines 40-51)

Independent Claim 1 has been amended herein to better define Applicant's invention over Hashimoto. Claim 1 now recites limitations and/or features which are not disclosed by Hashimoto.

Claim 1 as amended herein recites in part:

first transmitter means for transmitting a first message from the or each fixed terminal **directly to the one or more portable terminals**, the message including information specifying a channel, selected for that fixed terminal, to convey the broadcast message;

second transmitter means for transmitting from the fixed terminal **directly to the one or more portable terminals**, the broadcast message on the said specified broadcast message channel for reproduction of the broadcast message by the or each portable terminal, wherein the broadcast message channel is connectionless.

Hashimoto teaches a wide area cordless telephone system that is divided into a number of subsystems where each subsystem comprises a radio control unit, multiple access units, where each access unit services a service area servicing a plurality of cordless stations. The access units are connected to the corresponding radio control unit to establish two-way radio channels to the cordless stations (See Hashimoto at Col. 3, lines 2-15). Based on the above, it is submitted that Hashimoto teaches a method of indirect message transmission in that a radio control unit transmits to one or more access units which transmits, in turn, to a plurality of cordless stations.

It is therefore shown that Hashimoto does not disclose or suggest at least: first transmitter means for transmitting a first message from the or each fixed terminal **directly to the one or more portable terminals**, and second transmitter means for transmitting **directly** from the fixed terminal **to the one or more portable terminals**, as recited in Claim 1 as amended.

It is respectfully submitted that at least the limitations and/or features of Claim 1 which are underlined above is not anticipated by the disclosure of Hashimoto.

Claim 1 is also distinguishable over Hashimoto for the following reason. Applicants submit that the broadcast message channel of Hashimoto is not a connectionless message channel, as recited in Claim 1.

By contrast, the present invention is directed to a connectionless message channel as supported in the specification and claims. In support, the specification states that:

By broadcasting the message as a connectionless message it is possible to transmit substantially simultaneously to a plurality of portable terminals without setting up an individual call to each portable terminal and therefore without exceeding the limitations of the system.

This is achieved in the present invention by utilizing, in one embodiment, what is referred to in the art as a "connectionless bearer" in a DECT compliant system. In further support, the specification states at page 9:

A traffic bearer, as is normally used for voice or data communication, operates in a connection oriented mode since it involves the three stages of (1) setting up a connection from one source to one or more destination, (2) transferring data, and finally (3) releasing the connections. In contrast, a dummy bearer operates in a connectionless mode, since it involves the transmission of self contained units of data from one source to one or more destinations. A further type of bearer exists and is called a connectionless bearer. It is similar to a dummy bearer, except that while a dummy bearer can only carry system information, the connectionless bearer can carry other types of information.

It is submitted that Hashimoto teaches a connection oriented mode at Cols. 7 and 8. Specifically, Hashimoto teaches the three stages of communicating in a connection oriented

mode, namely, (1) setting up a connection from one source to one or more destination, (2) transferring data, and finally (3) releasing the connections.

Hashimoto teaches the use of a group alert signal that includes pairing identifiers for pairing access units with particular cordless stations which is equivalent to the first stage of communicating in a connection oriented mode.

The first stage of communicating in a connection oriented mode is taught in Hashimoto at Col. 7, lines 21-27 and at Col. 7, lines 62-67:

If a group call is received, control exits to step 102 to send a group alert signal to one of the access units. This group alert signal contains a plurality of pairing identifiers indicating access units and cordless stations which establish a channel therebetween when responding to an incoming group call.

If the signal received from the RCU is a group alert signal, control exits to step 128 to return an acknowledgment signal to the RCU and moves to step 129 to send a group alert signal containing a different pairing identifier to each cordless station of the called group, and returns to step 111.

The second stage of communicating in a connection oriented mode is taught in Hashimoto at Col. 8, lines 65-67 through Col. 9, line 2:

If it is, control exits to step 147 to switch the station transceiver to a speech channel specified by the channel identifier, and an end-of-switching signal is then sent to the access unit (step 148).

The third stage of communicating in a connection oriented mode is taught in Hashimoto at Col. 9, lines 49-50:

Access unit #2 then returns an end-of-connection signal 413 to the RCU.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) with respect to Claim 1 and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 4-6 and 9 contain the limitations of Claim 1 and are believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons given for Claim 1 above. Accordingly, withdrawal of

the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowance of Claims 4-6 and 9 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 11 as amended, recites similar subject matter as Claim 1 and therefore contain the limitations of Claim 1. Hence, for at least the same reasons given for Claim 1, Claim 11 is believed to be allowable over Hashimoto. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowance of Claim 11 is respectfully requested.

Claims 14-16 and 19 depend from independent Claim 11 and therefore contain the limitations of Claim 11 and are believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons given for Claim 11 above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowance of Claims 14-16 and 19 is respectfully requested.

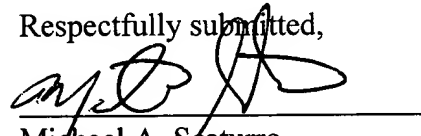
(2) In the Office Action, Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 17, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto, in view of Subhankar (US 6,112,097). Claims {2, 3, 7, 8, 10} and {12, 13, 17, 18, 20} depend from independent Claims 1 and 11, respectively and therefore contain the limitations of Claims 1 and 11. Hence, for at least the same reasons given for Claims 1 and 11, Claims {2, 3, 7, 8, 10} and {12, 13, 17, 18, 20} are believed to be allowable over Hashimoto and Subhankar, alone and in combination.

Further, Subhankar does not cure the deficiencies of Hashimoto. Subhankar does not disclose or suggest at least: first transmitter means for transmitting a first message from the or each fixed terminal **directly to the one or more portable terminals** and second transmitter means for transmitting from the fixed terminal **directly to the one or more portable terminals**. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and allowance of Claims {2, 3, 7, 8, 10} and {12, 13, 17, 18, 20} is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and notice of allowance be issued.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call Dicron Halajian, Esq., Intellectual Property Counsel, Philips Electronics North America Corp., at 914-333-9607.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael A. Scaturro

Reg. No. 51,356

Attorney for Applicant

Mailing Address:
Intellectual Property Counsel
Philips Electronics North America Corp.
580 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, New York 10591